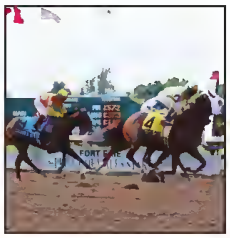
The
# Fort Erie Times
www.forterietimes.com
Saturday, July 21, 2012



## Racing Triumph
Prince of Wales Stakes a success for track
04

## New Improvements
Traveling over the border will become more efficient
08

• New courts at the tennis club

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# A Night of Art in Ridgeway

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Fort Erie Arts Council chair Sheri Ordinario, Nadine Foerstenberg and Mikah, artist Angie Smagata, along with Teo Ordinario, Jonah Pizzicarola and Jake Crysler are getting ready for the Niagara Night of Art. Read the whole story on page 11.

## Health care close to home

Mayor Doug Martin hopes to see new south Niagara hospital built closer to Fort Erie

**Sarah Ferguson**
The Times

Mayor Doug Martin is hoping a new hospital serving south Niagara will be constructed on the border of Niagara Falls.

Martin, along with the mayors of Port Colborne, Pelham and Wainfleet have met five times between May and mid-July with Regional Chair Gary Burroughs to discuss possible locations for the new hospital which will serve all four communities.

The discussions that took place were a request from Niagara Health System supervisor Kevin Smith, asking the mayors to recommend one site for a new hospital in south Niagara.

"We came up with two sites close to each other that we could all agree on," says Martin.

See Page 3

KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Dixie Strike, ridden by jockey Patrick Husbands, crosses the finish line to win the 77th Prince of Wales Stakes Race last Sunday at the Fort Erie Racetrack.

# Prince of Wales has best run since 2003

On and off-track wagering brings in almost $1.2 million for full day eleven-race card

**Kris Dubé**
Fort Erie Times

The Prince of Wales was a massive success for the Fort Erie Racetrack.

The second jewel in the Canadian Triple Crown of Horse Racing came out of the gate for the 77th year last Sunday, as several thousands of fans visited the 115-year-old border oval to take in the prestigious event, in an eleven -race card for the day.

Wagering for the entire day was up $133,673 compared to in 2011, pulling in a total of $1,158,497 for the entire day at both the track and at off-track sites in North America.

The Prince of Wales Stakes Race, the ninth of eleven runs on Sunday, saw $413,794 spent by race fans. On track, $64,748 came in.

For the entire day, $266, 401 worth of bets were placed between all eleven races at the track.

These are the best figures the Fort Erie Racetrack has seen on wagering since the 2003 Prince of Wales, when a total of $400,721 was spent on the stakes race and the entire card brought in $1,465, 074.

"This is fundamentally the best Prince of Wales we've had since 2003," said Fort Erie Live Racing Consortium chief executive officer Jim Thibert, who said even though there is plenty of uncertainty surrounding the facility when it comes to a future after this season, that wssn't the tome of discussions he had with many people throughout the day.

"There was nobody talking to me about this being the last year."

Thibert attributes the success of the day to a few things.

The first is that the track has sentimental value to people in the community and surrounding area.

"A lot of people came here with their fathers and grandfathers."

Secondly, the consortium has been aggressive with its marketing, hoping to reach out to new race fans, or people who wouldn't normally visit as often as they have this season.

> **"The crowd for the day was just wall–to–wall packed."**
>
> *— Jim Thibert*

"I think it's a new awareness," he said.

The farmer's market and a number of other attractions have also helped, he said.

"It's a great family day and there's nothing there that says you have to bet."

The 2012 meet itself appears to be on track for success, but Thibert was very pleased with the turnout on Sunday.

"The crowd for the day was just wall-to-wall packed."

Features like the TIki Bar have also boosted interest within the community, especially with the younger crowds, Thibert agreed.

It has become a venue for people in their 20's and 30's to meet and mingle with one another, much like a night out at other popular night life attractions.

"It's a real hot spot."

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# Choosing one site that satisfies every party involved is difficult, says mayor

From Page 1

The two locations agreed upon are in Welland at the intersection of Highway 140 and East Main St. and in Niagara Falls at the intersection of the QEW and Lyons Creek Rd.

"My preferred site would be in Niagara Falls," Martin says.

A number of concerns were discussed by himself and the other mayors including access to health care, travel time and population size.

"After looking at all of the possibilities, we all came to an agreement we thought would best serve all communities involved."

Martin says he and Niagara Falls Mayor Jim Diodati agreed positioning the hospital along the Queen Elizabeth Way would make more sense because of the high amount of tourists traveling between Fort Erie and Niagara Falls.

> **"After looking at all of the possibilities, we all came to an agreement we thought would best serve all communities involved."**
>
> *— Mayor Doug Martin*

And with the possibility of a Canadian Speedway coming to Fort Erie, it would be a good idea to have the hospital close by, he adds.

The biggest concern Martin has, though, is the location of Fort Erie compared to other municipalities in the region.

"We're still one of the farthest communities away from the two proposed locations. The closest site to us would be along the QEW."

Residents living in Ridgeway and Crystal Beach have to travel through Stevensville to access the QEW, while residents living in the north end of town have quicker access to the highway. Depending on where residents live in town, the distance it would take to travel to the hospital if it was built in Welland would be considerably longer, Martin says.

The decision to choose one location was difficult, he adds.

"There isn't any magic site that will satisfy everyone."

Martin noted that no matter what the final decision will be, it's the health care that will be provided at the new facility that matters.

"The quality of service you'll be getting will be a better service at the new hospital."

The recommendations from the Niagara mayors have been forwarded to Dr. Smith for consideration and he will recommend a final location based on the discussions held with Burroughs and the mayors.

Dr. Smith will submit a report regarding health care to the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care in the coming weeks.

Martin says he is not sure when a decision will be made about where the new hospital should go but he believes Dr. Smith will make the appropriate recommendation with all of the information he has been given.

"I have full confidence Dr. Smith will give his full attention and his due diligence to this matter."

Martin says the mayors also recommended keeping currently operating urgent care centres now operating at Fort Erie and Port Colborne hospitals, despite Smith's interim report on restructuring the NHS which calls for a single free-standing urgent care centre.


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KRIS DUBÉ Fort Erie Times

Jockey Patrick Husbands and Dixie Strike are guided to the winner's circle, after last Sunday's Prince of Wales Stakes Race.

# Striking it big at Prince of Wales

## Jockey Patrick Husbands rides Dixie Strike to victory at stakes race

When racing fans began to arrive at the 115 year old Fort Erie Race Track, it was looking as though umbrellas would be in order instead of fancy hats.

But just as the horses made their way out onto the oval to start the 11 race card, the skies cleared and the sun came out on what would be a well-attended day of racing.

With one of the largest crowds on hand in recent history, patrons were treated to one of the most exciting Prince of Wales events ever. A field of nine went postward with Irish Mission taking the most support from the betting public.

The 1 3/16 mile Prince of Wales is the second leg of the Canadian Triple Crown which began at Woodbine with the Queen's Plate, run on June 24 on a polytrack.

The "Wales" goes over a traditional dirt surface with the third leg, the Breeders' being run over the Woodbine Turf on August 5.

When the gates swung open, long-shot Menlo Castle grabbed the lead but was quickly challenged by Colleen's Sailor for the lead. The two set an opening quarter of 23.2 seconds and a half of 46.4. When the field made their way into the final turn, Dixie Strike, a filly, began to rally strongly down the centre of the track under jockey Patrick Husbands and was quickly picking up momentum in the race to the wire. Also getting into gear was Ultimate Destiny for jockey Steven Bahen.

Dixie Strike, who was strongly supported at 5-2, benefitted from a strong early pace and was able to win going away by a length.

Irish Mission, the 8-5 favorite never got involved, finishing sixth.

"I had her in a good position on the back stretch but when I called on her, she was just spinning her wheels," said her jockey Alex Solis.

Dixie Strike, a daughter of Dixie Union, had finished third in the Queen's Plate only three weeks ago. Her trainer Mark Casse was very confident that his filly would take to the dirt surface.

"She outworks my entire barn on dirt. She loves it," he said.

Jockey Patrick Husbands who was also the pilot of Wando back in 2003 for his Prince of Wales win, was very quick to compliment Casse on a job well done.

"Mark did a remarkable job."

See Page 4

## ANNOUNCEMENT

**Tracey Nolan**
**Advertising Sales Manager**
**St. Catharines Shopping News**
**Thorold Niagara News**

Tim Dundos, Publisher of Niogoro Community Newspopers is pleosed to onnounce Trocey Nolon os the new Advertising Soles Monoger for The St. Cothorines Shopping News ond Thorold Niogoro News.

Trocey brings o weolth of retoil odvertising experience from the Niogoro Mogozine Division, where she worked for four yeors os on occount executive.

Her soles experience olso includes 12 yeors ot the Bell Yellow Poges in Woterloo os well os o yeor ot the St. Cothorines Stondord. She olso hos six yeors of experiences in bronding ond lobeling, helping businesses from smoll proprietorships up to corporote entities develop bronds ond lobels for their products.

"I've olwoys loved helping businesses connect with their clients ond the community," she soid. "Thot's reolly whot the Niogoro Community Newspopers ore oll obout."

Her philosophy in soles hos been to help her clients grow their businesses by portnering with them in creoting solutions to moke their businesses successful, both in print ond online.

"With popers reoching from Grimsby to Fort Erie, we ore doing thot," she soid. "I've enjoyed connecting with both locol businesses ond reoders olreody."

Nolon soid it's been o pleosure to see the solid relotionship between the community ond the popers, ond her gool is to build on thot.

She ond husbond Andrew hove four children, ond hove lived in Niogoro Region for 12 yeors. The fomily enjoys outdoor octivities like hiking, comping ond sitting by the pool.

She's involved with the Down Syndrome Coring Porents of Niogoro orgonizotion ond she's olso on the porent council of both her locol elementory ond high school. She ond her husbond ore olso involved in their locol church.

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by Alaina Hilliar, M.Cl.Sc
Registered by CASLPO
Doctor in Audiology, Audiologist

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# Horse 'showed class' in last stretch of race, says jockey

**"This is a nice filly."**

*— Patrick Husbands*

From Page 4

"This is a nice filly," said Husbands.

"I had a perfect trip. I tried not to get a lot of kickback, with it being her first time on dirt.

"Just before I swung for home, I wasn't quite sure where I was going to go. But I swung her outside and she showed her class."

Ultimate Destiny stalked the pace from third early and battled gamely through the stretch to finish second, a half-length ahead of Colleen's Sailor, who hung in gamely for third money.

Quaesitor ran fourth with Dead On, Irish Mission, Menlo Castle, Run in Aruba, and Classic Bryce rounding out the order of finish. The final time was a modest 1:57.54.

Dixie Strike, owned by John Oxley, picked up $300,000 to bring her career bankroll to $900,260.

She returned $7.90 and keyed a $84.50 exactor, $363.20 triactor, and $940.15 superfecta.

# THE TOWN OF FORT ERIE

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## PUBLIC NOTICES

### COMMUNITY OPPORTUNITIES

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**BOARD AND COMMITTEE VACANCIES**

The Town of Fort Erie is seeking individuals interested in serving the community by standing for appointment to boards and committees where vacancies currently exist ***(Please see By-laws establishing each of the boards/committees at the Town's website www.forterie.on.ca under Town Hall "C" for "Committees".)***

Expressions of interest for consideration of appointment to the below noted boards/ committees are invited from residents/business owners/operators or taxpayers. ***Applications must be completed on the form available on the Town's website www.forterie.on.ca under Public Notices – Board and Committee Vacancies, or from the Clerk's Office*** and will be received by the undersigned **up to and including Wednesday, August 1, 2012 at 4:00 p.m.**

(1) **CRYSTAL BEACH BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT AREA BOARD OF MANAGEMENT – One (1) director vacancy.** Non-business owner/tenant of the area must be nominated by a member of the CBBIA. **Purpose:** To improve, beautify and maintain municipally-owned lands, buildings and structures in the area and the promotion of the area as a business or shopping area.

(2) **COMMUNITIES-IN-BLOOM COMMITTEE – Three (3) vacancies. Purpose:** To implement various programs, initiatives, events, promotional and education activities that encourage community participation in the program.

(3) **HOSPITAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Two (2) vacancies, one (1) of whom shall be from the Fort Erie Medical Community. Purpose:** To assist and advise in the establishment of hospital services at Douglas Memorial Hospital.

(4) **MAYOR'S YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE – Six (6) vacancies. Purpose:** To plan and advise Council on youth related issues. Interested applicants are requested to contact Ben McDermott at the YMCA directly to obtain an application: Telephone: 905-871-9622 ext. 233 or email: bmcdermott@ymcaofniagara.ca

(5) **SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE – One (1) appointee vacancy from Community-at-Large (age 50 & over). Purpose:** To establish a mechanism to fairly and equitably distribute financial assistance provided by the Town of Fort Erie for planning and hosting social events and to determine the need for increased senior citizen services.

*This information is being collected pursuant to the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and will be used to select persons for appointments to Town of Fort Erie boards and committees.*

Carolyn J. Kett, Town Clerk
Town of Fort Erie, 1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie, Ontario L2A 2S6
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## CROSSING GUARD?

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Preference will be given to persons who have experience as School Crossing Guards. Offers of employment are conditional upon the successful applicant providing the Town with a police Clearance Certificate 2. Successful applicants must also be available for and attend training. Interested applicants are invited to submit a resume, in confidence to;

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**ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 5:00 P.M., FRIDAY JULY 27, 2012**

Persons who have in the past, submitted unsolicited applications/resumes are encouraged to re-apply to be considered. Only those candidates selected for an interview will be contacted. Personal information is collected under the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* and the *Municipal Act, 2001 as amended, for the purposes of employee recruitment.*

# opinion page

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our editorial

## Prince of Wales one of Fort Erie's proudest moments in many years

That was something to be proud of.

Last Sunday's Prince of Wales can easily be considered one of Fort Erie's most spectacular moments in years.

Since there are no turn-styles to record attendance figures, it is unknown how many people came out to the prestigious horse racing event, but in our estimation, 8,000 is probably a safe figure.

The large turnout is most likely due to the mindset of many people who felt last Sunday was their last opportunity to take in the race, the second jewel in the Canadian Triple Crown.

The huge crowd should also set a tone to take to the provincial government, that there is interest in the horse-racing industry throughout many demographics.

You have the track vets who have been fixtures there for decades, there's recently turned fans in their late 20s and early 30s who see features like the Tiki Bar as a great venue to have a blast with friends, and of course the people who simply want to support the community they love so much and its largest employer.

So, let's hope the community continues to show its support for the Fort Erie Racetrack and appreciates ho lucky we are to have such a jewel amongst us.

Let's also hope that it can be saved and has many years ahead for everyone to enjoy.

*-Kris Dubé*

## Do You Remember?

We had an incredible response to last week's photo of the Fort Erie REACT Club's 50/50 draw: our thanks to Allan Morrell, Lori Murrell-Brown, David Wolff, Helen Long, and Peter Crowhurst for identifying (left to right) Jim Perham, Rick Murrell (winner of the draw) and Horst Wolff (David's father) in the photo and telling us a bit about the REACT club.

Rick was president and Jim was vice-president of the Fort Erie group, which Peter tells us was a volunteer service organization that provided support for emergency services.

This week's photo of some local water sport enthusiasts has the name "Remler" written on the back.

If you recognize either of these kayakers, please call the Fort Erie Historical Museum 905-894-5322 or e-mail us at museum@forterie.on.ca.

## Barrel thieves are shameful

*Dear Editor,*

To the person or the people, I do not believe one person could left this barrel by themselves, who stole the accent wine barrel filled with flowers on Erie Road.

I want to say shame on you.

Our committee works very hard to do displays that are pleasing to the eye.

This barrel was one of many placed on Erie Road to make the community beautiful. If you liked this floral arrangement so much we would have been more than glad to do one for you. All you had to do was ask.

Now let me tell you how to look after it.

Please water it every day and sometimes it might need two waterings a day because of the heat.

It needs to be deadheaded to keep it looking prolific, it will also need to be fertilized every week to keep it blooming.

If you should need any help with the care of this barrel please feel free to call us, we will be more than glad to visit you, along with a police officer.

Lois Wilson

## Monument shouldn't be moved

*Dear Editor,*

I am outraged that our local government would provide resources to move the monument at Mather's Arch.

The arch was designed to look over the Peace Bridge in respect to a man, Alonzo Mather, who spent considerable time and energy pushing for a bridge between Canada and the US. He was a philanthropist who recognized that such a bridge would serve as a positive and permanent mechanism for trade, prosperity and peace.

In Fort Erie, we are proud of our role in the continued ties between two countries that have not always seen eye to eye.

In this year of the 200th anniversary of a war between us, it is even more ridiculous to move a monument that currently looks out over the bridge and across the river to the US.

Yes, this is a veterans' monument. Yes, it commemorates Canadian veterans of war.

It also serves as a reminder that many of our veterans served in conflicts that were intended to ensure peace.

What better way to recognize the contributions of those who served than by highlighting the peaceful long-term objectives of their sacrifices.

I beg Town Council, the Fort Erie Legion, the Niagara Parks Commission and others who are misguidedly bent on moving the monument to reconsider their position.

It's time to admit a mistake.

Return the grant, stop the fundraising and stand with other proud Fort Erie residents to keep our monument in its uniquely positioned place.

Use it as a focal point for understanding during the annual Friendship Festival to continue the efforts of Alonzo Mather and veterans who have built the bridges for peace in our countries.

Lesley Durham-McPhee

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Niagara Falls member of parliament, attorney general and minister of justice Rob Nicholson, with New York State Senator Tim Kennedy and Canadian Border Services Agency regional director general for southern Ontario Richard Comerford at the Peace Bridge.

# Making the border better

**Kris Dubé**
Fort Erie Times

A new technological advancement will allow for cross-border motorists to have a better understanding of wait times at the Peace Bridge and Queenston-Lewiston Bridge.

Niagara Falls member of parliament, minister of justice and Canada's attorney general Rob Nicholson with a handful of other parties gathered at the Peace Bridge to highlight the project, that is being implemented at the Peace Bridge and the Queenston-Lewiston.

New and advanced sensor technology near customs plazas and approach roads will measure and report delays and relay this information to travellers.

People will be able to plan their routes better, time their crossing and select the bridge with the shortest wait-times.

"Canada and the United States are taking action to promote safe, secure and efficient movement of people and goods across the border," said Nicholson.

"This technology will make cross-border travel easier and facilitate trade by providing reliable, up-to-date information to help drivers plan and choose the fastest crossing," added Nicholson.

> **"This is another example of a way we can work together as two nations to improve travel times and the important commercial opportunities that exist between both countries."**
>
> *—PBA chairman Sam Hoyt*

This new system is expected to reduce border wait times for the travelling public and commercial carriers by up to one million hours per year.

Both the Queenston-Lewiston and Peace Bridge's websites will provide the information.

"This technology demonstrates significant progress on behalf of the Beyond the Border Action Plan by updating critical infrastructure at our ports and enhancement of the border-crossing experience for travellers," said acting Customs and Border Protection Commissioner David Aguilar.

"This latest example of U. S. Canadian collaboration demonstrates our nations' partnership to ensure continued economic competitiveness."

Buffalo and Fort Erie Public Bridge Authority (PBA) vice chair Anthony Annunziata said often cross-border travellers arrive at one of Niagara's crossings, unaware of how long it may take to get to the other side.

This recent announcement will help alleviate that for individuals and families headed to places like Marineland, Niagara Falls or even Buffalo Bills games.

"That certainty is extremely important in the utility of border travel," he said.

Sam Hoyt, PBA chair, said this project is proof that the relationship between Canada and the U.S continues to grow with productivity.

"This is another example of a way we can work together as two nations to improve travel times and the important commercial opportunities that exist between both countries," said Hoyt.

The project has a price tag of $1.7 million, and is being split by the U.S. and Canadian federal governments, part of the Beyond the Border Action Plan.


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# One of final steps for Crystal Beach condo approved

Fort Erie Council approved one of the final agreements needed for the Crystal Beach Gateway condominium development.

During a closed session meeting on Monday, councillors approved the formal agreement between the Town and the Molinaro Group defining respective responsibilities for the maintenance of both public and common facilities on the Bay Beach site.

"This is a positive last step in order to see this project move forward," said Fort Erie Mayor Doug Martin. "I would like to thank the Molinaros for their patience, understanding and continued commitment to Fort Erie."

A bylaw was passed setting out the standards for maintenance and cost sharing terms.

"We are very excited," said Vince Molinaro, president of the Molinaro Group. "We get calls regarding our project on a regular basis and we will soon be ready to move forward with construction."

He said the project will provide an alternative form of housing for those who want a more "maintenance-free lifestyle."

The town estimates a positive spin off effect worth $3.45 million outlined as open space improvements such as landscaping, walkway construction and park furniture, the reconstruction of a portion of nearby roads, a large outdoor public event space, beachfront promenade and a year-round multipurpose community pavilion.

The four-acre parcel of land was purchased for $2.1 million in 2001, but the town will retain more than 80% of the site, including the beach portion.

In the agreement, the town will net $75,000 annually.

Taxation revenue will equate to $192,000 and from that $45,000 will be subtracted for post-construction maintenance of a public pavilion, along with $1,500 in insurance costs and $70,000 in the amortization of incremental assets.

The town will be responsible for light maintenance, removal of debris and litter, weekly cleaning and grass cutting, along with a bi-weekly weeding of landscaping beds.

The municipality will be responsible for maintenance of the podium, along with the public pavilion.

Daily periodic inspections, stocking and cleaning of an outdoor public washroom will also be the duty of the town.

Revetment works on open space lands will be split by the town and the Molinaro Group, which will not create any changes in cost from what the town sees prior to construction.

The town will undertake and administer the monitoring of the toad enhancement area, but at an expense of $50,000 from the developer.

# 'An offer has been extended'

The Town of Fort Erie has its sights set on a new chief administrative officer.

Prior to Monday's regular council meeting, staff and local politicians held a closed session meeting to discuss the top position at Town Hall's vacancy.

Entering back into the chambers, it was announced that a recommendation for staff to act on council's direction on the matter was approved.

Voting in favour were councillors Paul Collard, Bob Steckley, John Hill and Don Lubberts.

Opposed to the recommendation were councillors Shular and Passero, along with mayor Doug Martin.

Later in the week, Martin said the process is still ongoing.

"An offer has been extended, but hasn't been received yet," he said.

Those are the only details Martin was able to provide, since the permanent filling of the position has been a matter discussed in closed session.

"I can't get into it too much," he said.

Last July, Harry Schlange, the Town's top staffer for over five years, left his post to pursue a new job in Ottawa.

Since then, Ron Tripp, the director of infrastructure services, has taken over the role.

Martin said more information about this issue will be made public once the process is complete.

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# Review of Fort Erie's high schools will be underway by end of September

Committee will consist of members of the community, student and municipal representatives and the school board

**Sarah Ferguson**
The Times

When the bell rings, signaling the first day of school in September, the process of assembling an Accommodation Review Committee (ARC) will begin.

An ARC has previously reviewed Fort Erie's public elementary schools which decided Rose Seaton and Fort Erie Elementary will close at the end of the next academic school year.

Now, the town's high schools, Fort Erie Secondary and Ridgeway-Crystal Beach High School, will be put under the microscope, along with Port Colborne High School.

The ARC is expected to be formed and in place by the end of September.

The first of the ARC's meetings is set to take place Nov. 8, says Kim Yielding, manager of communications for the District School Board of Niagara (DSBN).

The ARC will consist of members of the community, municipal representatives, parents, DSBN staff and student representatives, says Yielding.

Over the next few months, the ARC will undertake an in-depth study of each school and provide recommendations to guide school board trustees in their decision.

The ARC will evaluate the schools by visiting each one, looking at past, current and projected enrolment and take into consideration feedback from the public, says Yielding.

"A very important part of the process is for the public to speak to the committee."

All ARC meetings will be open to the public to listen to discussion take place between ARC members.

During a limited number of these meetings, the public will be able to address ARC members to share their concerns, Yielding says.

Comments can also be sent to ARC members through e-mails or written letters, she adds.

Unlike the review of Fort Erie's elementary schools, Yielding says reviewing the high schools will be more difficult.

The challenge for the review is that it involves two different communities, says Yielding.

"Every ARC process is different and every school community is different."

The need for the review came about for a number of reasons.

Declining enrolment is the biggest factor, Yielding says.

According to a DSBN facility planning report approved by the board of trustees during their June 25 meeting, secondary enrolment at the DSBN has declined by about 2,125 students since 2001.

Enrolment is expected to decline by another 2,500 students by 2021.

Once the ARC has been formed, it will meet a number of times until the end of March.

After that time, a report with the committee's recommendations will be given to the board of trustees.

Yielding says the decision to close a school is not one that is taken lightly by those individuals involved.

The board will have sixty days before a decision can be made, says Yielding.

But that doesn't mean the board will make a final decision about which high schools will close.

"School board trustees can take as much time as they need. The earliest a decision can be made is June."

And members of the ARC give many hours to make sure they have given the board the best possible recommendations, Yielding says.

"Every member of the ARC holds a volunteer position and they spend a lot of their time involved in the committee. These people take this task very seriously."

When an ARC process is underway, the ARC and the school board have to examine the fiscal reality of keeping a school open while balancing the needs of students, says Yielding.

She says the goal of the ARC to is provide the best possible education for students.

If the ARC decides to close a school and consolidate students, it would reduce the need for conjoined classes and increase support for extra curricular activities, she adds.

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# A Night of Art in Ridgeway

**Kris Dubé**
Fort Erie Times

Ridge Road will be flooded with arts, culture and a lot of music on Aug. 25.

A partnership between the Fort Erie Arts Council and the Fort Erie Music Fest, the Niagara Night of Art (NNA) will be a family-friendly event to celebrate many forms of art.

The project receives funding from the Cultural Capitals of Canada program and will be held in downtown Ridgeway.

With the Niagara area given the top recognition in the federal program, all 12 municipalities in the region will be hosting their own events and this will be considered Fort Erie's.

The objective is to showcase local music, theatre, dance, literary arts, visual art, media, installation arts and heritage.

**"We want to get the artists' interest peaked and get them involved with us."**

*— Sheri Ordinario*

Participating businesses will host the different artists who will be showing their work. Live music will be heard from an outdoor stage.

The headlining act is A Tribe Called Red, an aboriginal electronic music group, that features former local resident DJ Shub (Dan General).

Chair of the Fort Erie Arts Council, Sheri Ordinario, says the line-up for the day is in need of more interactive artists like strolling musicians, jugglers, clowns and live painters.

"We want to get the artists' interest peaked and get them involved with us," she said.

Ordinario is also excited about the merger with the Fort Erie Music Fest, formerly held at Waterfront Park in Crystal Beach for the last few years.

"We're hoping it's going to continue year-after-year," said Ordinario.

On Monday July 23, the event's organizers will be holding a meeting at the Trailside Restaurant on Ridge Road and anyone interested in volunteering or being a part of the show is invited to attend.

For more information, call (905) 894-8273 or (289) 321-0502. You can also send an email to forterie-nightofart@gmail.com.

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Canada in Bloom — Communities in Bloom / Collectivités en fleurs

## JIM R BAIRD- NATIONAL JUDGE THIS YEAR

Jim retired as the Commissinner nf Planning and Develnpment fnr the City nf Saint Jnhn in May 2008. While he had been at the City fnr twenty eight years, he had previnusly wnrked in Charlnttetnwn, PEI and Halifax NS.

**Education:**

Bacbelor of Environmental Science, University of Waterloo, School nf Urban and Reginnal Planning, 1973 Management Develnpment Prngram, University nf New Brunswick, 1991.

**Work Experience, City of Saint John**

As Commissinner between 2002 till 2008, Jim was respnnsible fnr a department that included Real Estate, GIS, Heritage, as well as Cnmmunity Planning. He wnrked extensively witb Council and ntber departments on a variety of major development projects. He was the City representative on the steering committee for the development of tbe Inner harbnur use Plan. This Plan received the Award nf Excellence frnm the Canadian Institute nf Planners in 2004.

As Directnr nf Cnmmunity Planning (1995-2002) and Manager nf Develnpment (1990-1995), Jim wnrked clnsely with bnth develnpers and the cnmmunity in a wide range nf residential and cnmmercial develnpments.

**Charlottetown Area Regional Planning Board**

Between 1978 and 1980, Jim worked witb this voluntary planning agency which invnlved nver a dnzen municipalities. During this perind, a cnmprehensive Transpnrtatinn Plan was cnmpleted.

**CBCL, Halifax**

Between 1974 and 1978, Jim wnrked nn a wide variety nf cnnsultant prnjects in Atlantic Canada.

**Membership**

Vice-Chair Town of Rothesay, Heritage Preservation Review Board

**KIDS IN BLOOM**

Cnngratulatinns tn all the ynung gardeners whn entered ynur gardens this year. It was a pleasure fnr nur judges tn meet ynu and see ynur garden projects. We hnpe tn see ynu at the Awards Gala tn be held at the Leisureplex, 5-7 pm, Mnnday, July 29th.

# Tennis Club's programs underway on five new courts

**Kris Dubé**
Fort Erie Times

The Fort Erie Tennis Club has a brand new look.

A $40,000 renovation has taken place at the local facility. Five hard courts have been completely replaced, the first time such a project has taken place at Fort Erie's tennis headquarters in almost 20 years.

"They were in pretty rough shape," says the club's president Jonathan Wright.

Many cracks were repaired first, then the courts were resurfaced, he explained.

Wright feels the improvements were essential, especially since the club's junior program is approaching 100 members.

"It was becoming a bit of a safety issue," he said.

The last renovation the facility, was more of a cosmetic improvement, said the Town of Fort Erie's facilities manager Sean Hutton.

> **"It's now one of the best facilities in the peninsula."**
>
> *— Jonathan Wright*

But the most recent improvements, completed a few weeks ago, have gone much further.

"This time we have focused on the deterioration that has happened to some of the courts," said Hutton.

This is also the first time the Fort Erie Tennis Club has had a blue on green pattern on its courts, which Wright said is becoming very common on courts everywhere.

"It's becoming more common to have blue courts with a green exterior," he said.

Wright said the courts are up to standards more than ever and are becoming the envy of tennis enthusiasts all over Niagara.

"It's now one of the best facilities in the peninsula," he said.

There are about 85 young players involved in the club's junior program currently.

The club provides low cost instruction for youth aged 5 to 18 and also offers assistance to low income families through the Headstart program.

Although the eight-week summer program is underway, Wright says new students are always welcome.

"There's always room."

For more information about the club and its programs, call (905) 994-0600.

**KRIS DUBÉ** Fort Erie Times

Fort Erie Tennis Club president Jonathan Wright, back left, head pro Jessica Li, the Town of Fort Erie's facilities manager Sean Hutton, Dominika Boyd, Emily Wright, Madison Hutton and Quynn Gilmour at the local facility on Thursday.

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The Fort Erie Times

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## Legal Notices A900

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND OTHERS**

In the estate of Janet Margaret Louise Hunt late of the Town of Fort Erie, in the Regional Municipality of Niagara, deceased.

All claims against the estate of Janet Margaret Louise Hunt, late of the Town of Fort Erie, in the Regional Municipality of Niagara, who died on or about April 25, 2012, must be filed with the undersigned personal representative on or before July 30, 2012; thereafter, the undersigned will distribute the assets of the said estate having regard only to the claims then filed.

Dated this 3rd day of July, 2012.

**William John Cotton, Estate Trustee**
**c/o Richard S. Halinda Law Professional Corporation**
**Barrister & Solicitor**
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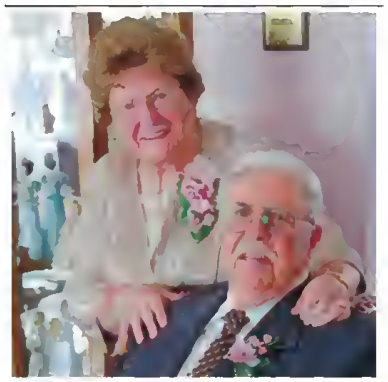
12632484



**Happy 65th Anniversary**
**Bob & Olive Graham**
July 26th
May this anniversary reflect all the special moments you have shared and all the wonderful moments yet to come.
With love from your family.

12631432

# Thank You Cards

**Thank you**
to all the Quilters who loaned us quilts for our Quilt Show during Ridgefest.
People's Memorial Fundraising Commitee

12632539

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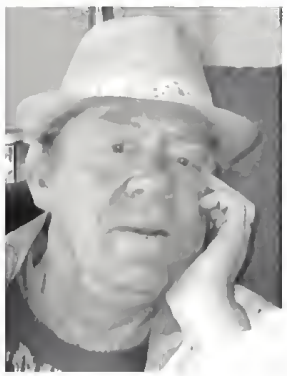
11238643

# Deaths

**GIANFRANCESCO, Giovanni "John" Mario Virginio** - Suddenly at his residence in Fort Erie, on Tuesday, July 17th 2012 aged 66 years. Beloved husband of 45 years to Franca Gianfrancesco. Loving brother of Achille (Helen) Gianfrancesco and the late Antonio. Dear son-in-law of Giuseppe and stepson of Pina Cerbina and family. Also survived by several nieces and nephews. Predeceased by his parents Pietro and Anna Gianfrancesco and his mother-in-law Dominica Gianfrancesco. The family received their friends and relatives at the **HAMMOND-DAVIDSON FUNERAL HOME**, 21 Wintemute Street, Fort Erie on Thursday 2-4 and 7-9 p.m. Vigil prayers were offered at the funeral home at 3:30 p.m. Funeral Mass was Celebrated at St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church, Fort Erie on Friday, July 20th at 11:00 a.m. Rite of Committal at Greenwood Cemetery, Fort Erie. Memorial donations to the C.N.I.B. would be appreciated by the family. On-line condolences
www.hammonddavidsonfuneralhome.com

12629859

# Deaths



**McCARTHY, Joseph G. -**
**July 10 1941-July 12 2012**
*"Be still and know I am with you!"*

Joseph, 71, of Fort Erie died Thursday July 12th, 2012 at the Welland County General Hospital surrounded by family. He is survived by his loving wife Erika, his children Kathleen, Joseph, Daniel, and Joanna. Also survived by his sisters, Kathleen (Jack) O'Connor, Joan Kaye and his brother James (Joanne), sisters and brothers-in-law Margrit & Klaus Lachnitt, Maria Girschweiler, Felix & Annemarie Weber and Ursula & Emil Huser. Predeceased by his parents John & Rose McCarthy. Joseph is also survived by many nieces & nephews. At Joseph's request cremation has taken place and a Celebration of Life and interment have been held. In lieu of flowers the family would appreciate donations to the Canadian Mental Heath Association. Arrangements entrusted to **NIAGARA FUNERAL ALTERNATIVES** 905-894-0120.

12629282

Place an In Memoriam....
Our Staff will be pleased to help you.
Call
1-866-541-6757

## Deaths

**SIVILOTTI, Alfeo** - Loving husband of Wanda, passed away peacefully surrounded by his family at the Douglas Memorial Hospital on Sunday July 15th at the age of 87. Proud father of Paul (Marian) Sivilotti. Cherished Nonno of Aleah, Meagan and Paolo. Predeceased by his brothers and sisters. Alfeo was employed at Fleet for many years. He was a dedicated and loving family man who will be sadly missed by all that had the pleasure of knowing him. **BENNER FUNERAL SERVICES** 1105 Benner Ave., Fort Erie entrusted with arrangements. Funeral Mass was celebrated at 11 am on Thursday July 19th at St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church. Interment followed at St. Joseph's Cemetery.

12629429

## Card of thanks

**Larocque, Diane.**

The family of the late Diane Larocque would like to extend our sincere gratitude and thanks to our family and friends for all the floral tributes, food, cards and charitable donations in Mom's memory. A special thanks to the doctors and nurses at G.N.G.H. and especially Dr Sher and the nursing staff at D.M.H. We also want to thank all of the caregivers who came into our home to take care of Mom so she could stay comfortable with her family while at home. Many thanks to Jenn for all of her help and also for putting a smile on Mom's face. Thanks to Mom's roommate who stayed out of her own bed to give us the privacy we needed with our Mom at the end. A very special thank you to Phil Screen and his wonderful and caring staff at Williams Funeral Home for all their support and guidance in this time of sorrow.

Sincerely Roy, Kids and Family

12630381

## In memoriam

**Bob Barker**
October 11th, 1963 - July 24th, 2008

Missed greatly by family and friends.
Love Mom and Gordo
Hope you are sharing some
chuckles with Willy.

12631859

## In memoriam

**Gerard Lacroix**

Our beloved husband and father of 60 years,
who passed away July 22nd, 2011.
While sleeping in my arms the children and
grandchildren around us, Heaven's Gate
swung gently open at exactly 5:55pm
The Master called softly, "Come,"
And you, dear one, took the Master's hand,
And your work on earth was done.
We'll never cease to miss you,
And shed many silent tears,
Because we cannot share with you
Our hopes, our joys, our fears,
But one day, in God's Garden,
When the Master calls us to come.
You'll be at the gates with open arms
And say to us "Welcome Home!"
I miss you my sweetheart, until we meet
again. Love Fran, your wife, and Family.

12626607

**Show everyone your appreciation.**
Call 1-866-541-6757 and leave
a Thank You Note on this page.

11283627

## In memoriam

**Gloria O'Grady**
July 21, 1959 - July 17, 2008

*These are the things death cannot take away;*
*Nor age, nor tears, nor pain, nor cruel care*
*Can harm her now or enter memory's hall,*
*She that we loved, so beautiful and fair,*
*From all life's dangers now secure is she;*
*Lovely she was and lovely she shall be.*

Forever loved and always remembered
husband Ray and children Brian, Amy,
Sean, Shana, Tara. XOXO

12630631

**O'GRADY, Gloria** - In loving memory of our dear mother who passed away July 17th 2008.

*No one knows how much we miss you,*
*No one knows the bitter pain*
*We have suffered since we lost you*
*Life has never been the same.*
*In our hearts your memory lingers,*
*Sweetly tender, fond and true,*
*There is not a day, dear Mother*
*That we do not think of you.*
*You are loved more than you know.*

Love Brian, Amy, Shana and Sean

12632344

**SUMBLER**

In loving memory of my son **Ron**
- who passed away - July 24, 2006.
The leaves and flowers may wither,
The golden sun may set,
But my heart that loves you so dearly,
Is the one that will never forget.
I love you, I miss you,
Till we meet again, Mom.

12626989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